IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Prior Art Unit: 3651

SHINICHI HIRAMOTO et al.

Prior Examiner: Mark A. Dueble

For: CONVEYING APPARATUS AND

ROTARY TYPE TRANSFER APPARATUS FOR SPOUT-

EQUIPPED BAGS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application which is a divisional application of pending Application No. 09/971,265 as follows: